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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

For Immediate Release:
June 21, 2010
10-12

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, awards contract to construct maintenance dredging at Ocean City, Md.

BALTIMORE – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, awarded a \$7,970,500 contract June 14 to Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company, LLC of Oak Brook, Illinois, for maintenance dredging of the Atlantic Coast of Maryland Hurricane Shoreline Protection Project in Ocean City, Md.

The project consists of maintenance dredging of approximately 1.1 million cubic yards of sand from an offshore borrow source and placing it on the beach berm and dune along approximately eight miles of shoreline at Ocean City.

The Atlantic Coast of Maryland Hurricane Shoreline Protection Project provides a steel sheetpile bulkhead along the boardwalk and the placement of 3.6 million cubic yards of sand along the Ocean City coastline to widen and raise the beach profile for 8.3 miles from 3rd Street north to the Maryland-Delaware (MD-DE) state line, with an additional 0.3 mile transition into Delaware. It also provides the construction of a vegetated sand dune for 6.9 miles from 27th Street north to just beyond the MD-DE state line, as well as periodic beach re-nourishment and monitoring over the 50-year project life (1994-2044).

During the Nor'easter storm last November, damages were sustained along the 8.3-mile length of the project with the majority of the damage occurring along 6.8 miles of vegetated dune area. After extensive surveying, analysis, and groundtruthing, it was determined that the area extending from the landward toe of the dune to the approximate mean high water shoreline between 27th Street and the MD-DE state line had lost 450,000 cubic yards as a result of the storm.

The project has experienced three persistent areas of erosion that have required significant amounts of sand re-nourishment since the project's inception. These areas (33rd Street, 81st Street, and 145th Street) have been examined, and the Corps has determined that, at this time, there are no federally-justified solutions that can be implemented.

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The hurricane shoreline protection project is authorized under Section 501(a) of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 1986, Public Law 99-662, which revises the cost sharing provisions between Federal and non-Federal entities by putting greater emphasis on the non-Federal sponsor's role in funding Corps studies and projects.

The beach renourishment project is scheduled to be complete by December of this year.

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